

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 694 without my signature.

This bill would shift authority over a portion of land from the City of San Diego to the State Lands Commission, effectively removing the ability of the city to cooperate with the United States government in the protection and public use of these tidelands and submerged lands.

Last year, I vetoed a similar measure, AB 1832 (Saldana), which would have applied to tidelands and submerged lands throughout California. I recognize that the author has limited the scope of this bill to tidelands already granted within the City of San Diego. Unfortunately, this measure suffers the same fatal flaw: it imposes trust restrictions on certain tidelands parcels which could significantly undermine the authority of local officials to administer trust resources.

Once again, I believe that local governments have an inherent interest in creating partnerships with the federal government and others in utilizing water front lands for the benefit of the people of California. I remain firm in my belief that they can do so in a way that balances both our environmental and economic interests.

For this reason, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger